

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

U.S. Route 34, Henderson and Warren Counties, Illinois

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Submitted Pursuant to 42 USC 4332 (2)(c)
by the

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration
and

Illinois Department of Transportation

Cooperating Agencies

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Illinois Department of Agriculture
Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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Date of Approval

Michael L. Hine

For IDOT

1/15/03

Date of Approval

Robert Stevenson

For FHWA

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The proposed action is the construction of a partially limited access, four-lane facility in Henderson and Warren Counties, which would provide a continuous four-lane link between the existing freeway at Gulfport in the vicinity of Carman Road to east of Monmouth. The proposed facility is approximately 40 kilometers (km) [24.85 miles (mi)] in length and includes a bypass to the community of Biggsville. The proposed action would improve traffic safety, system continuity, and system capacity resulting in a more efficient highway than the existing U.S. Route 34. The right-of-way needed to construct the proposed action will utilize 240 hectares (ha) [593 acre (ac)] of existing U.S. Route 34 right-of-way and require 278 ha (687 ac) of new right-of-way. Potential environmental effects include the conversion of 274 ha (677 ac) of agricultural land, 6.9 ha (17.0 ac) of 100-year (Zone A) floodplain, and 0.17 ha (0.42 ac) of wetlands to right-of-way and one commercial and ten residential relocations. Approximately 0.17 ha (0.42 ac) of wetlands would be mitigated as part of the project. Other alternatives considered include the No Action, transportation system management, upgrade of existing facility, and build alternates on new or partial new location.
